Appl'. No. 09/787,982 Amdt. Dated September 19, 2005 Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-22 (canceled).

23 (currently amended). Device A device for producing plastic pipes comprising:

an adjustable pipe head; to which is connected

and having, which is equipped with a vacuum suction connection for providing a vacuum in the vacuum suction bell, so that thereby the a pipe-shaped stream of molten extrusion material is sucked up and thereby is adjusted to the a desired outside diameter of a pipe to be formed, a precooling of the molten extrusion taking place in the vacuum suction bell; , characterized in that provision is made for

measuring devices, which control the outside diameter of the molten extrusion, and that, depending on the desired outside diameter, the vacuum prevailing in the suction lock vacuum

Appl'. No: 09/787,982

Amdt. Dated September 19, 2005

Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

suction bell is set by the measuring devices, the measuring devices disposed in the vacuum suction bell and controlling the vacuum to allow the desired outside diameter of the pipe to be change on the fly without stopping a production process to allow production of multi-sized pipes.

24 (currently amended). Device The device for producing plastic pipes according to claim 23, further comprising a calibrating station, where the an exact calibration of the outside diameter of the already partially hardened pipe takes place through (by) a mechanical central adjustment.

25 (currently amended). Device The device for producing plastic pipes according to claim 24 23, comprising a vacuum calibrating bath connected with the calibrating station, seen in the production direction, where a the cooling down and hardening of the plastic pipe takes places through water spray.

26 (currently amended). Device The device according to claim 23, characterized by the fact that the measuring instruments wherein the measuring devices operate with sensing tools resting on the an outside wall of the pipe for controlling the vacuum for setting the desired outside diameter of the pipe.

Appl. No. 09/787,982

Amdt. Dated September 19, 2005

Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

27 (currently amended). Device The device according to claim 23, characterized by the fact that the measuring instruments wherein the measuring devices control the an outside diameter of the pipe in a touch-free manner.

28 (currently amended). Device The device according to claim 27, characterized by the fact that the measuring instruments wherein the measuring devices include at least one sensor selected from the group consisting of sound sensors and light sensors, said sensor controls a formation of control the outside diameter of the pipe by means of sound or light sensors.

29 (currently amended). A device for producing plastic pipes, comprising:

an extruder;

a pipe head connected to the extruder in the <u>a</u> direction of production, the pipe head having a mass gap being adjustable for setting different initial outer diameters of a pipe shaped molten extrusion; and

a vacuum suction bell connected in the production direction

Appl. No: 09/787,982

Amdt. Dated September 19, 2005

Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

to the pipe head and formed by a vacuum-tight chamber with a vacuum connection;

measuring tools positioned inside the chamber to detect the

an outside diameter of the pipe shaped molten extrusion, the

measuring tools adjusting a vacuum condition in the chamber

for controlling the outside diameter of the pipe shaped

molten extrusion entering the chamber;

a calibration station connected to the vacuum suction bell, the calibration station setting different pipe dimensions for setting the outside diameter of the pipe shaped molten extrusion;

a calibrating bath connected to the calibrating station, the pipe shaped molten extrusion being cooled and hardened in the vacuum calibrating bath forming a pipe; and

a vacuum seal, the pipe leaving the vacuum calibrating bath through the vacuum seal, and the vacuum seal adjusting automatically to the outside diameter of the pipe.

wherein by changing the vacuum condition, the outside
diameter of the molten extrusion is controlled, wherein
during production of the plastic pipe the mass gap of the

Appi. No: 09/787,982

Amdt. Dated September 19, 2005

Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

pipe head is adjustable and different pipe dimensions can be set in the calibrating station for the outside diameter of the pipe, wherein the pipe is cooled and hardened in the vacuum calibrating bath, and the pipe leaves the vacuum calibrating bath through the vacuum seal, wherein the vacuum seal adjusts automatically to the pipe diameter.